

# **NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMISSION**

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## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**February 6, 2003**

*(Approved March 6, 2003)*

Members Present: Edward Murdough, Robert Nelson, David Duquette, Stephen Carrier, Roger Hatfield, Paul Fortier, John Hoglund, Corey Landry, Richard Mason.

Members Absent: Stephen Judge, John Stephen, Ronald O'Keefe, Les Cartier, Peter Russell, Joseph Butts, Donald Bliss.

Others Present: Division of Fire Standards & Training Staff--Bruce McPherson, Bureau Chief; Dennis Rosolen, Bureau Chief; Sue Prentiss, Bureau Chief; Susan Beaudoin, Recording Secretary.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 1. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag.** The meeting of the New Hampshire Fire Standards & Training Commission was called to order by Chair Paul Fortier at 10:08 a.m. on Thursday, February 6, 2003 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Item 2. Moment of Silence.** Chair Fortier requested that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence for our American heroes, the astronauts who so tragically died on February 1, 2003.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Item 1. January 16, 2003. Motion** was made by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Landry, to accept the Minutes of the January 16, 2003 Commission meeting with the following change as noted by Commissioner Murdough: Page 2, IV, Item 1, Change "Dr. Andrews" to "Dr. Andrew." Motion passed unanimously.

### III. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Fortier welcomed everyone. He noted they have a nice load of snow up north for those who want to spend some of their southern money; but don't forget to return home!

### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Item 1. Emergency Medical Services Liaison.** Commissioner Duquette reported that the new Chair of the Emergency Medical Services Trauma Coordinating Board, Clay Odell, did a presentation on what a board actually should do. Commissioner Duquette is looking at what this Commission should do according to our rules and responsibilities, and he would like to do a presentation when he is done. He noted that there are a lot of interesting laws out there. New Hampshire still has laws on the books that towns can require businesses to have buckets and ladders available at their places of business in case of a fire.

Chief Prentiss reported on the following items:

- (a) Their strategic plan has six key goals that they are working on: Evaluation and Monitoring of their Trauma & EMS System, Education, Customer Service, System Coordination, Performance Improvement, and Network Development. Those six goals have 30 objectives and 90 action steps. They have now completed or are in the process with 52 of those action steps. They started embarking on them last January 9. Goal #1 that has to do with Evaluation and Monitoring, this is how they are going to perform their operational clinical protocols and practices in New Hampshire. They need to have a system for collecting information, and how it is arranged, and determine what kinds of reports need to be generated. They hired a research person, Fred von Recklinghausen, to get that started.

They are starting a consensus building process. On March 4 and 5, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, as well as the EMS for Children Data Analysis, will be on site. They have 30 different areas in terms of individuals or groups that need to be represented at the table from injury prevention to rehabilitation to discuss what they want the system to look like. They will use this education program as a baseline. They are asking for a

- commitment of two years, with four meetings a year to help the Bureau build an action plan. A letter was directed to Chair Fortier to appoint representation for that meeting in March.
- (b) The most recent updates of the EMS protocols were sent out to hospital medical directors and EMS hospital coordinators the end of January. The administration of epinephrine by use of epinephrine pens has been moved to EMT-Basic level. They have adopted the use of Amioderone to meet the national standard for the treatment of ventricular fibrillation. They have a new advanced spinal assessment protocol to help with the assessment and treatment of spinal cord injuries. There is a lot of discussion at the level of the Medical Control Board, now that they have a full-time ALS Coordinator on, how the protocols should be formatted, how they should be rolled out, and the timeliness of it.
  - (c) They are currently running a background check on a possible new Trauma Coordinator. They just hired a new Secretary II, Lynn Lagace, for their Berlin office; she will be starting on Friday, February 7.
  - (d) They engaged cooperatively in a project with the Office of Rural Health to do a needs assessment for EMS as well as a customer satisfaction survey. They are in the process of analyzing that right now. They had a 70 percent return. The major areas they are looking at are recruitment, retention, education, and funding of EMS systems.
  - (e) Small Pox vaccinations: They are waiting for Commissioner Flynn's signature on a memo to go out to all EMS units, medical directors, and members of all their advisory boards that talks about pre-events and post-events, and the three different phases. The pre-event is a limited group of public health workers; and some EMS people have been identified in that group to receive voluntary vaccinations. Phase two of the pre-events is where the majority of responders—fire, police, and EMS—can voluntarily get their vaccinations. The hospitals and Health & Human Services control this clinical process, and they have done a great job together. The Office of Emergency Management is doing the logistics. Post-event is phase three, should an outbreak be identified, they will be looking at the states to hold mass immunizations over a ten-day period in that entire state, again voluntarily. EMS will need to be a part of the local partnerships, and they need to have at least one EMT on site. If anyone can help at clinics, they should contact Bill Wood.

Commissioner Hatfield stated that they have been passing on this information. First responders are saying that we are only focusing on one of many biological threats. What are we doing about the

others. Nashua's plan is an all-hazards approach. Chief Prentiss responded that she is part of the bioterrorism steering committee. She will relate that to the others she is working with.

- (f) Commissioner Hatfield asked if EMS is combining their Educational Methodology program with Fire Standards & Training's, as that would be a great help. Director Mason and Chief Prentiss answered that we are in discussion about that.
- (g) Commissioner Carrier asked about the EMS office's role with the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA). Chief Prentiss replied that they have held at least two sessions in the State, where they brought in an attorney to talk to EMS and fire agencies about HIPAA. HIPAA primarily has to do with data privacy, information you receive when you are out on a call, what information you are entitled to, and who you can and can't share that information with. The big piece has to do with billing. We have developed a training program with a lesson plan and with frequently asked questions. Right now it's being looked at by a Department of Safety legal counsel. In the interim if anyone has questions, Fred von Recklinghausen, may be reached at 271-0322 or Kathy Doolan at 271-4568.
- (h) Commissioner Hatfield sat in meeting of the Hospital Association last week regarding decontamination (decon). They are looking at decon training but not the full 16 hours that we have. They will be looking to both EMS and FST for direction. He encouraged them to get involved with their local regional hazardous materials teams.

Director Mason stated that he has talked with Kathy Bizarro of the NH Hospital Association, and his opinion is that you are not going to get Decon until you have had Awareness, which is 8 hours of education. When he was at the Portsmouth Hospital for the grand opening of their expanded emergency room, they wanted to show him decon area, which is very nice. It's almost like a shed off the side of the building. He started asking them questions about hazardous materials in general and they had no clue. They need Awareness at least. We have offered to do a Hazardous Materials Awareness program at our expense in all 26 hospitals, coordinated by Kathy Bizarro. Director Mason said it will be his stance that we will not do Decon training until they have Awareness training. Commissioner Hatfield said that Kathy Bizarro brought that up at the meeting. They were going to organize and design their own Decon program, and Commissioner Hatfield recommended they call Director Mason before they do that. Director Mason explained that she is working with Dave Jones. Commissioner Hatfield said that they also had the Vermont Hazardous Materials team representative there, and he was telling them what he is doing in

Vermont. Commissioner Hatfield said he directed them Chief Prentiss' way.

- (i) Chair Fortier said he received a letter from Chief Prentiss regarding Commission representation on the consensus group at their meeting on March 4 and 5. He asked if any Commission members are interested. Chair Fortier appointed Commissioner Duquette who is the Commission's EMS liaison.

**Item 2. Curriculum Review.** Commissioner Duquette reported that the Curriculum Status Report was in each Commissioner's packet and is as follows:

- (a) Driver/Operator - Pumps:  
A second pilot is currently being organized in the field with Alton on an evening schedule basis.
- (b) Hazardous Materials - Operations:  
At this point it is up and running with a new 50-question written exam. The exam is much improved and the program is working out well at this point.
- (c) Hazardous Materials - Technician:  
The trailer is proving to be a valuable asset and will be an on-going work in progress. Requests are coming in and we will be looking for more instructors soon.
- (d) Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting:  
The curriculum is ready to go; we have in hand some photographs from Manchester Airport to be added to the manual. We have had a number of firefighters complete the eight-hour recertification program thus far, which seems to be our bread and butter. Ted Starkweather is working on a possible 40-hour certification program for Spring 2003.
- (e) NFPA 1030 Series:  
NFPA 1031, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiners was offered June 3-7, 2002 and was very successful. The Littleton class is doing well and will end this week. An Inspector II curriculum will be coming from Maryland for consideration soon.

NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator and NFPA 1035, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator are still in the Visiting Committee phase. We have been assured that, when the second Inspector I pilot is complete, the other committees will move forward.

Chair Fortier welcomed the Visiting Committee members for the Fire Investigator program. Present were Rick Wood from Nashua, Chris Wyman and John Gregoire from the State Fire Marshal's

Office, and Dick Giguere from Rochester; Jeff Emanuelson from Manchester was not able to be present.

Rick Wood explained that two programs have been delivered on NFPA 1031. That subcommittee was chaired by Linda Wilking. They have a meeting scheduled for the end of this month, and hope to have a proposal ready for the March Commission meeting.

Mr. Wood said that NFPA 1035 is currently on the back burner as it is the least in demand.

Mr. Wood reported that NFPA 1033 went dormant for a little bit, but they are now meeting again. They are looking at three programs: US Fire Administration, New York State, and Pennsylvania State Police. The concept they are looking at right now is two programs for Fire Investigation, one that would focus on modular delivery for company officers, firefighters, police, and prosecutors. They don't want to give out all the information as investigators to just anybody, but they need to get out certain information about investigative processes to people who make preliminary judgments and decisions on whether or not to call a fire arson investigator. The second component would be a full two-week program, with a prerequisite of the first component. They like the New York program layout, which can easily be adapted to New Hampshire and their material is on PowerPoint as well.

Commissioner Hatfield asked how the New York State program fits into our accreditation process. Chief Rosolen replied that New York State is Pro Board as well so it would fit. Mr. Wood said that, instead of getting two programs from two different places, they wanted to look at one package. To meet the Fire Investigator standard, you would have to commit three weeks of time, not all at once. Mr. Wyman distributed the two binders, one for the two-week program and one for the one-week program. Mr. Wood explained that, because this ties in to criminal investigation material, they would have criteria for screening people for the two-week program. They felt that program should be reserved for those who are actively involved as an investigator and that there should be some sign-off at the chief officer level that says that it is a part of their job description.

Commissioner Landry asked who they would use for instructors. Mr. Wood answered that they don't have the ability to dictate instructor requirements but they will be making recommendations about instructors. That decision comes from the Director and his

staff. They do feel that it should be restrictive. Director Mason stated that it will probably be like the Company Officer program from Maryland. We could very likely bring a person in from New York to do a train the trainer. Mr. Wood said that the concept with this program is largely experience based in your ability to ask questions from students. The only people who teach in New York are the equivalent to the Fire Marshal's Office here.

Commissioner Landry asked about the Certified Fire Investigators in the State. Mr. Wood said they talked about having qualified people that are actively involved. They do have some screening protocols that would have to be worked out by Director Mason and his staff.

Commissioner Nelson asked if wildland fires are included in this, and had they contacted anyone in his office. Mr. Wood replied that they have not, but they had talked about that component this morning. They bring in content experts. In the wildland area, you have some people who have been through the federal investigation of wildland fires curriculum who would be best suited to deliver that part of the program. Again, that would be worked out by Director Mason and his staff. Commissioner Nelson said that he agreed.

Mr. Wyman stated that there is a section on explosions and explosives. The New Hampshire State Police control the explosives laws in the State of New Hampshire. Therefore, they would be the key people to help New Hampshire-ize that section and teach. Director Mason noted that Norm St. Hilaire, the Program Information Officer for the Department of Safety, has two sons who are county attorneys, one in Merrimack County and one in Grafton County, who might be able to assist with the prosecution section.

Chair Fortier stated that it's not too often that the Commission members get to meet with Visiting Committee members. On behalf of the Commission members, he thanked the Visiting Committee members for their work and information.

(f) Rescue Series - Structural Collapse Technician:

The curriculum is anticipated to be presented to the Commission today, it utilizes the FEMA collapse building curriculum, a public domain program.

Program Coordinator Michael Mansfield did a presentation on the proposed Structural Collapse Technician program. He thanked the

Commission members for giving him the opportunity to discuss this program and the Ice Rescue program.

Mr. Mansfield explained that the Structural Collapse Technician program was developed from the FEMA Structural Collapse Technician program, and meets the 1006 and 1670 NFPA standards. It has two prerequisites—(1) Firefighter II or Firefighter Level Two and (2) Introduction to Technical Rescue Skills (ITRS). This program is almost 70 hours in length at approximately 10 hours a day for seven days, and 36 is the maximum number of students per program. If a student passed everything, he/she will get Firefighter III certification. We are ready to run the program now. The instructors are on board and are all Staff Instructors. There is a 100-question written examination and a multi-station practical examination.

Mr. Mansfield further explained that Rescue Systems II is a pared down version of the Structural Collapse Technician program. The only prerequisite for Rescue Systems II is Rescue Systems I. If a student does not want to do Firefighter II and ITRS, that student could do the first six days of the seven-day Structural Collapse Technician program. Emergency Building Shores is the day deleted because they had it in Rescue Systems I.

Mr. Mansfield said that Anaheim, California is the only other place in the United States that teaches this program. Our next step is to do two pilots. If approved, Rescue Systems II would be offered in July, and Structural Collapse Technician in September.

Those who have had Rescue Systems I, and then get their Firefighter II and ITRS, can come for the last day of Structural Collapse Technician. If they then pass the written examination, they are all set.

Director Mason stated that he doesn't think the Structural Collapse Technician program can be done off site. There is a possibility that a training ground could have the equipment, but it would be extremely difficult to do it off campus. Mr. Mansfield said that, if this program was field deliverable, he would tell the Commission members that. He said that Rescue Systems I could be done in the field ten times easier than Rescue Systems II. It is not designed to be a field deliverable program. He noted that it could be field deliverable in the future. Director Mason stated that, for example, if IEU wanted to make the program available, they should be able to.

Director Mason also noted that the class that has already been held could be counted as a pilot. Mr. Mansfield said there were no issues for those who took the first class, and that the students from that first class would only have to come in for their written examination. There was not one complaint about the first program.

**Motion** by Commissioner Hatfield, seconded by Commissioner Murdough, to approve two pilot programs for Structural Collapse Technician, with one of those programs being retroactive to the September 15-21, 2002 Rescue Systems II program. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mansfield then did a presentation on the proposed Ice Rescue program. He said that this program meets NFPA Standards 1006 and 1670. He looked at three programs—(1) State of New York, (2) Pennsylvania Fish & Game Commission, and (3) the old NH Fire Standards & Training Commission program. Prerequisites for this program are (1) Firefighter II or Firefighter Level Two and (2) ITRS. The first day is five to six hours of classroom, and about three hours of tools and equipment familiarization; and the second day is eight hours of practical evolutions on the ice, for a total of 16 hours. There will be both a written and a practical examination. The program is both on site and field deliverable. Successful students will receive Firefighter III – Ice Rescue certification. We have some instructors ready now, and we will do a train the trainer.

Commissioner Hatfield asked if we would be able to do a dual certificate with PADI on this program. Mr. Mansfield explained that PADI is an underwater program that falls under Dive Rescue.

Commissioner Duquette asked Mr. Mansfield if this was on PowerPoint; Mr. Mansfield answered that it is and he will be giving Commissioner Duquette a copy for his review.

Commissioner Hatfield asked if we have the equipment to run the program. Mr. Mansfield replied that we have much of the equipment we need. We do need some other equipment such as a rescue ice sled, boogie boards, and ice staffs. We could also use some more cold water survival suits. He has made arrangements with vendors to provide demos so we will have what we need.

**Motion** by Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to run two pilot programs for the Firefighter III - Ice Rescue program, with one to be held at the NH Fire Academy and one in the field. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Nelson noted that the Town of Sutton has ice-cutting equipment that we might be able to borrow for the program.

(g) Rescue Series - Confined Space:

The first pilot was scheduled and held in Franklin May 15-17, 2002. Reviews are good at this point and we are waiting to schedule a second pilot in the near future.

(h) Other:

(1) Visiting Committees for the following in accordance with the Commission vote on February 3, 1999 are about to commence awaiting Commission approval:

NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications (2002 edition)

NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (2002 edition)

NFPA 1041, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications (2002 edition)

(2) We met with Chief Nelson and Paul Leary on January 21, 2003 in regards to NFPA 1051, Wildland Firefighter Professional Qualifications, to come on board as a certification program.

(i) Commissioner Murdough reported that he just signed letters that will be going out in the next day or so to the 31 people who said they were interested in participating on the C2F2 Visiting Committee. They will be meeting here at the Academy on Thursday and Friday, February 27 and 28. Commissioner Duquette asked if there was a return date for the confirmation. Director Mason replied that he thought it was the week before the meeting. Commissioner Murdough further explained that the return notice stated that the person is committed to the entire two days.

**Item 3. Fire Marshal's Office.** Director Bliss was absent.

**Item 4. Forest Protection Bureau.** Commissioner Nelson reported on the following items:

(a) The second Ranger position is on hold at this point as they are waiting for the Governor's budget. The hiring freeze doesn't include law enforcement; however, with the budget reductions they don't know that they will be able to fill the position.

- (b) They are deeply involved in the Department of Safety Emergency Management emergency support functions, along with the Fire Marshal's Office. They are working on some Standard Operating Guidelines and Procedures.
- (c) They are starting to schedule the Spring Warden/Deputy Warden training sessions; will share those dates with the Fire Academy and will post them on their website when they are available. They should be starting as early as mid-March. May 31 to June 1 is the annual weekend training session. They are also working with the NH National Guard in providing wildland fire training for about 100 of their employees.

**Item 5. Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT).** Commissioner Cartier was absent.

**Item 6. NFPA Standards 1031-1033-1035.** NFPA Standards 1031, 1033, and 1035 were addressed in the Curriculum Status Report. At the request of Chair Fortier, this item will be moved to Committee Reports – Item 3 so that the report may be given in conjunction with Committee Reports – Item 2 – Curriculum Review.

**Item 7. Emergency Preparedness and Security.** Commissioner Landry reported that the Advisory Council on Emergency Preparedness and Security will be meeting next Monday, February 10, 2003. Director Mason noted that they will be meeting the second Monday of every month. They have about 20 members.

## **V. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

**Item 1. Director's Report #68** covered the following subjects: (1) Rule Change Proposal, (2) Strategic Plan, (3) Policy Manuals, (4) Field Captains, (5) Safety & Health Council of NH – Conference, and (6) Sue Beaudoin.

Director Mason also noted the following on those subjects:

- (2) Commissioner Carrier stated that he sat on the Curriculum Committee, and he didn't see any heading for that on the final report. Chief Rosolen explained that we condensed the plan. Director Mason explained that we took the final proposals from each plan and consolidated the ones that were similar. These are just generalities. Chair Fortier asked if one of the goals is to increase our ability for field deliverable programs. Director Mason answered that it deals with instructors so we can make sure we do plenty of field programs. Director Mason noted again that

Commissioners Carrier, O'Keefe, Butts, and Duquette sit on various committees.

- (3) We held a Division staff meeting on Monday, February 3, with only three of our 43 full-time staff people absent. Also, many of our program coordinators and program technicians were present.
- (4) Although it looks like the southern area would be busier than the northern area, the southern area has the Interstate Emergency Unit, Souhegan, and Meadowood that do a great deal of their own training. Commissioner Nelson commented that our map agrees with their map of north and south except by a town or two.
- (5) We are working with PrimeX and the NH Municipal Association on this. Director Mason and Chief Prentiss are looking at assigning some EMT continuing education hours.
- (6) Sue Beaudoin received a round of applause from the Commission members for her success on her weight loss program.

Other items discussed were:

- (7) Chief McPherson just finished his second class, Reducing Risks in Communities, in the Executive Fire Officer program at the National Fire Academy.
- (8) FETN is the Fire & Emergency Television Network based out of Texas. They are starting a series on "So you want to be a firefighter" or "introductory fire fighting," and they have asked us to help with that. They are following the NHCTC students around today doing some of their donning and doffing. They interviewed Chief McPherson yesterday about the fire apparatus. In the afternoon Chief Rosolen did fire department organization and career development. This afternoon Director Mason will do fire service agencies and other disciplines. Dover Lieutenant Chris DeWolfe works for them.
- (9) Every Friday Director Mason has to send his schedule for the next week to Assistant Commissioner Stephen, with notes as to how he can be contacted if he is away, and he has to explain why he is away.
- (10) For Director Mason's wife, Kathy, her original blood count when they discovered the cancer in October was 1505. It is supposed to be below 30, and yesterday hers was 17. The Commission members gave a round of applause for Kathy.
- (11) Director Mason said he talked with Bob Waters regarding the Fire Act Grant workshops. February 17 will be in Lancaster, February 18 at the Fire Academy at 1:00 p.m. and in Plainfield at 7:00 p.m., and then February 19 at the University of NH. The Senate approved \$900 million for next year, and now it has to go to the House.

- (12) Director Mason explained that, as an example of how we all work well together, the command staff of the National Guard is realigning into one office. They want their staff together from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. this Sunday morning (February 9), so they will be here at the Fire Academy then.
- (13) The National Fire Academy was pressured to come up with the Chief Officer program, which is a 160-hour program of four weeks. Basically it was precipitated by the Northeast Consortium, and it's led by a Retired Chief Officer out of New York City. They are looking for training for a Captain, maybe in Nashua a Deputy, and in Manchester a Division Chief, but basically the on-shift person who would lead a crew. The National Fire Academy is not going to offer this program; it will be given directly to the field. Every metro and every state has one person we can send to the train-the-trainer. From New Hampshire, representing the state side is Commissioner Carrier and the metropolitan side is Kris Soderberg from Manchester for the train-the-trainer. It will give us 32 modules that we can pull off the shelf. A lot of it we can use in assessment centers. We should get a report at the next Commission meeting.
- (14) Director Mason noted that everyone has a notice of the scheduled Commission meetings for the rest of 2003. This information is now on our website also.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

**Item 1. Fire 703 Rules Change.** **Motion** by Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to add the following section to CHAPTER 700 FIRE FIGHTER MANDATORY STANDARDS:

### *PART Fire 703 TRANSFERS*

*Fire 703.01 Transfers. Any full-time firefighter meeting Fire 101.17 and employed by a New Hampshire Fire Department defined in Fire 101.15 shall be allowed to transfer employment to another Fire Department. Said hiring shall meet Fire 701.01 (a), 701.01 (b), 701.01 (d), 701.01 (f) and 701.02.*

Motion passed unanimously.

Director Mason said we will go forward with this. He noted that Assistant Commissioner Stephen had contacted him to ask if it's a 28-A issue, and Director Mason told him it's a reverse 28-A as it will save communities money. We will get Commissioner Flynn's signature on it,

and then it will go to Administrative Rules. Two public hearings will be held. Director Mason will see if we can have it made into an interim rule for six months, and we will do the public hearings in that time frame.

**Item 2. Entrance Exams.** Director Mason reported that they are still in the process of getting the appropriate approvals to do some investigations that need to be done from the people who are under investigation for the entrance exam situation.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1. Fire 101.17.** Director Mason reported that Deputy Fire Chief Marty Carrier, Merrimack Fire Department, had called him regarding two people who are getting close to the \$10,000 limit; therefore, he would like the Commission to strike paragraph (b) under Fire 101.17, which would make paragraph (c) become paragraph (b). Mr. Carrier does not feel we should tie a monetary value to this, and he will be formalizing his request in writing. Director Mason explained that we changed the figure in 1997 from \$5,000 to \$10,000 as the result of a request from Bow. Commissioner Nelson suggested that this item be discussed when the formal request is received.

**Item 2. Wildland Fire Training Visiting Committee.** Commissioner Nelson asked that the Commission form a Visiting Committee for Wildland Fire Training to meet NFPA 1051 Standard. They will be looking for Pro-Board approval when the program is developed. He said it is a win/win situation, and noted that it's another sign of State agencies working well together to deliver services for the needs of the fire service.

**Motion** by Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Hatfield, to form a Visiting Committee for Wildland Fire Training. Motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. RETREAT ITEM DISCUSSION**

**Item 1. Instructor Quality Control.** Instructor Quality Control was tabled until the March 6, 2003 Commission meeting.

## **IX. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Item 1. Nashua Firefighter Died.** Commissioner Hatfield stated that Nashua lost a firefighter of a heart attack. He was one of Mike Mansfield's drivers, Charles Vasiliou. He was retiring, and passed away last Friday (January 31). He asked that everyone put his family in their prayers.

**Item 2. Fire Prevention Signs.** Commissioner Nelson reported that there are two new permanent fire prevention signs at the Hooksett rest areas. They received approval through the Department of Transportation to have the signs there. They are looking for placements for other type signs around the State, such as signs announcing the legal requirements to have fire permits before kindling any open fires. This was interagency cooperation among FEMA, Emergency Management, the Department of Transportation, and the Division of Forests & Lands. The Department of Corrections is making the signs.

**Item 3. Fire Simulators.** Commissioner Nelson stated that they have purchased two fire simulators, which hopefully will be in soon.

**Item 4. Annual Poker Run and Ride In.** Chair Fortier reported that the Annual Firefighters Poker Run and Ride In is this coming weekend in Pittsburg. This was originally started by the three most northern fire departments in the State as part of their spirit.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion*** made by Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Murdough, to adjourn at 12:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Mason, Director